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INCITEMENT
TO
EARLY PIETY;

OR,

A MANUAL OF DEVOTION:

WITH A
SELECTION OF HYMNS,
ADAPTED TO YOUTH OF BOTH SEXES.



To which is prefixed,
A LETTER OF MATERNAL ADVICE,
FROM A LADY TO HER SON,
ON PRAYER, AND VARIOUS RELATIVE AND CHRISTIAN DUTIES.



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1815.

PREFACE.

THE following little tract was not intended to meet the public eye; and the Authoress is fully aware, that it requires much of the partiality of filial attachment and domestic indulgence to overlook its want of merit.

It having been suggested, however, to her that some benefit might accrue from its publication, she feels unwilling to withhold it: and if, by the blessing of divine grace, any parents by placing it in the hands of their offspring, should have cause for rejoicing; the applause of the world can convey no reflection so soothing to the heart of

THE AUTHORESS.

December 1814.

MANUAL OF DEVOTION,

&c. &c. &c.

MY DEAR CHILD,

YOU have requested me to assist you with a suitable form of prayer, wherewith you may address your Creator morning and evening ; a request that cannot fail of awakening the liveliest interest in the breast of any mother, professing herself to be a christian.

In selecting such prayers as I conceive most likely to prove useful to you, I am induced by maternal solicitude for your temporal welfare and eternal happiness, to preface the compilation with a few remarks. Experience of your dutiful attention, and reliance on your affection for your parents, lead me to

hope you will carefully peruse them, both now, and many years hence, when, if God shall spare your life, mine will, in all human probability, be closed; and the hand which writes this and the heart that dictates it be alike mouldered into dust. Regard them as my voice speaking to you from the tomb: may God give his blessing on these, my humble endeavours, and may my words sink deep into your soul, and bring forth fruit in due season.

On the duty and necessity of prayer, I flatter myself I need not enlarge, as happily from your earliest infancy you have been habituated to this daily exercise: yet a few hints on the *manner* in which you perform your devotions will not perhaps be thrown away.

The dependance of the creature on the Creator is so palpable and evident that few dare deny this; and still fewer wholly neglect the morning and evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; but I fear it is not uncharitable to assert, that out of the many who bow the knee, few offer unto the LORD the service of the heart, that free-will offering which he requires. GOD will not be

mocked. He will not answer a prayer heedlessly repeated in a lounging posture, and has denounced his anger against those who draw nigh to him, with their lips whilst their hearts are far from him : and in another place, how awful and fearful is the sentence pronounced against the inattentive sinner, " Because I have called and ye refused ; I have stretched out my hand and no man regarded ; I also will laugh at your calamity. I will mock when your fear cometh : when your fear cometh as a desolation and your destruction as a whirlwind : when distress and anguish come upon you, then they shall call upon me but I will not answer, they shall seek me but they shall not find me."

You would not thus presume to kneel in the presence of an earthly sovereign, and if you had a boon to ask, would implore it with earnestness, with fervour, with perseverance : but what is an earthly potentate in the sight of him who is King of kings and Lord of lords. This impious indifference, as to the manner in which we address our Maker, proceeds from the want of due consideration

of the majesty of this great and glorious Being, of his power, his omniscience, his omnipresence, and his other attributes, from a want of bringing ourselves ideally, as we ever are in fact, into his immediate presence; and from the habitual neglect of the means of furthering this and every other spiritual improvement, by self-examination and the study of the holy scriptures. Self-examination, by accustoming yourself to a daily review of your faults, of your actions, and even of your very thoughts, will teach you beyond the possibility of contradiction, the weakness and corruption of your nature, your proneness to error, and the impossibility of attaining to virtue by your own exertions, without the assistance of that wisdom which is from above. Human pride, indeed, revolts at this humiliating tenet, and as you advance in life you will often hear the contrary opinion maintained with much plausibility, often with the aid of eloquence and of talent. "Talents abused, learning misapplied." Since every passage of that book, which is of divine origin, refutes the fallacious position, and proves man to be by nature born in sin

and only regenerate by grace. This doctrine, which is the stumbling block to the self-righteous, brings the lowly and contrite christian on his knees, he begins to know himself and to feel his wants, and struck with a deep sense of his own unworthiness, and of the necessity of holiness, without which no man can see the Lord ; he no longer prays coldly, listlessly, and superficially, but with ardent, earnest hope ; and desire of examining himself, truly repenting of his former sins, leading a new life, and worshipping God in spirit and in truth.

The study of the holy scriptures is the best means of attaining this desirable end. Many books you may read and ought to read, which will conduce to profitable attainment in this world ; but the Bible alone can make you wise unto salvation ; and of what avail will be all human learning, wisdom, or talents, at that hour which must sooner or later arrive, if you be found wanting in this better knowledge " this one thing needful." Let me entreat you, my beloved child, as you value my blessing whilst I live, and as you will reverence my memory when I am dead, never to suffer the ridi-

cule of thoughtless companions, indolence of habit, or any cause whatsoever to tempt you to neglect the daily perusal of the Bible: much perhaps you cannot read, but some small portion of time you can spare for a few chosen sentences, which I would wish you to read with attention before you kneel down to address your God. Your devotion will be kindled by the inspired style of this blessed book, and this practice will be a guide to your paths and a lamp unto your feet, through the slippery ways of that world on which you are about to enter. "Wherewithal shall a young man cleanse his way? even by taking heed *thereto* according to thy word." So said the sweet singer of Israel, who was a sovereign of extensive power and whose time and thoughts might naturally be supposed to have been much occupied by worldly pursuits, in the governance of his kingdom and the due maintenance of his state and dignity. But his language was "O let me have understanding in the way of godliness," and "In the evening and morning and at noon-day will I pray and that instantly," and the wisest and the gayest of men in his day held

the same opinion: he had tried the flowing round of every earthly pleasure, and had drawn largely from the stores of luxurious profusion, yet he was compelled to exclaim "Vanity of vanity, saith the preacher, all is vanity and vexation of spirit." All is vanity and vexation save that *word* which fadeth not, whose perfume is as the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valley; sweeter than honey or the honeycomb. Precious may it ever be in your sight, my dear boy.

I would chiefly recommend to your attention for daily study, the New Testament; in the four evangelists you have a history of the life and death of our blessed Saviour (a subject never to be sufficiently contemplated), and in the epistles the best commentary on the former, and the finest thesis on the doctrinal and practical parts of christianity. If you read these with an humble and teachable spirit, they will lead you where alone a young man can hope for security as well as pardon; to the foot of the cross, to that Saviour who is the way, and the truth, and the life, through whom alone we can enter into the kingdom of heaven.

Surrounded as you must necessarily be with temptations, your Bible will be the best and safest guide, and prayer your refuge when trials encompass you. The dissolute and profligate indeed will say, "Let us crown ourselves with roses, and walk in the ways of our hearts, and in the sight of our eyes." But what says the wise man? "Know thou, that for all these things GOD will bring thee into judgment."

The great Sir Matthew Hale, one of the ablest lawyers and one of the best men this country ever produced, used to say when he had passed a Sabbath in the unprofaned observance of it, he found it operate as a blessing and a safeguard through the other six days: and I can truly say, I have experienced the same, during each day which has been begun with prayer and meditation on the scriptures. Rising from these sacred exercises, the mind is refreshed and invigorated by the contemplation of heavenly things on the one hand, and by the practice of self-examination on the other. Thus bringing into review our own many and great offences against our Maker we

learn to be more lenient towards our fellow-creatures, forgiving, even as we hope to be forgiven, and to keep a check over our tempers, which, even in good people are apt to be ruffled on the most trivial occasions. Before I quit this last subject, to which I have alluded, I shall briefly make a few passing observations, because I am but too well aware of the great importance of impressing on your mind, the necessity of preserving equanimity of temper, if you would wish for happiness in this world, where so much must necessarily arise to try it daily and hourly, and if you value the esteem and the comfort of those around you: I am more solicitous on this point, because I am aware how often temper is considered as a constitutional gift; as a fortuitous circumstance which, like personal beauty, is very desirable to the possessor, but equally impossible to attain unless so gifted by nature. This is one of the many delusions presented to us by the great enemy of souls, by which we are too often cheated and lulled to repose, instead of endeavouring to root out the evil without delay, and imploring the divine assistance on our exer-

tions. So far from considering temper as of no importance, I consider it of the first. In this world it cements, or unbinds the bonds of affection betwixt man and wife, the parent and the child, the master and the servant ; and if we extend our views to the next, we can hardly imagine the man whose temper is as a whirlwind and a storm, capable of tasting satisfaction in that region where all is harmony and love. As well might the drunkard plead his thirst as an excuse, as the passionate man his temper. It is true, that all are not born with the same portion of the milk of human kindness, the same tranquillity of mind, the same suavity of manner, but I maintain that no man can be a *christian* and indulge in *habitual* ill temper, nor even give way to frequent starts of passion. It is this blessed change of heart and of temper, which the gospel, and the gospel alone can effect, joined to earnest prayer and a constant watchfulness over the first risings of warmth and anger. Our Lord, who read the human heart as none beside ever did or could read it, bids us watch and pray lest we enter into temptation, and those who, by the

study of their own heart, know how prone it is to evil, how constantly liable to fall into those very errors, which, in our most serious moments, we sincerely bewail and strenuously resist; feel the necessity of constantly imploring the divine help for grace to overcome the evil. It is, therefore, my beloved child, that I earnestly entreat you to pray with all your heart, and all your soul, and all your strength, that GOD may, through Jesus Christ, strengthen you in every temptation, give you grace to flee from sin, however alluring, and enable you to triumph over those constitutional failings to which the best among us are liable: being all born in sin and the children of wrath, until renewed by the Holy Spirit and made the children of grace.

Many secondary helps we may wisely make use of as staffs through our dangerous pilgrimage, and which I shall point out to you as preparatory to the furtherance of the things I have already enjoined. The first is early rising, which will enable you without entrenching on any worldly duty or calling, to devote the first hours of the morning "to Him in whom we

live, and move, and have our being," whilst your body is refreshed by comfortable rest, and your mind free from the clouds of care, business and fatigue. By analogy I may compare each morning to the spring and freshness of youth, which assuredly is the best time for acquainting yourself with GOD and being at peace. Even supposing length of days could be assured to you, how impious and affronting is the thought, that you would reserve the dregs of existence to offer unto the Most High. Neither is the thing in itself feasible, were it unobjectionable on other grounds; he who has not learned to hold communion with his GOD in early life, can rarely bring himself to do so in his latter days: when the body is bent and the mind enfeebled, when the silver cord is loosed and the wheel is broken at the cistern. No, my child, give the Lord your heart ere it be withered by sorrow, or cankered by care; ere your spirits have lost their tone and elasticity by the repulsive coldness or the neglect of friends, in short, by any of the many ills humanity is heir to, and whilst your corporeal part is in its prime and vigour.

Let the morning of your life, with the first hours of each day, be given to the pursuit of things eternal, so shall you reap a blessing on all things temporal. Alike amidst the cloud and the sunshine, religion shall shed abroad her sweet influences, and yours shall be the peace of God, which passeth all understanding.

Mine is no Utopean dream of happiness, no wild theory, no untried position; I have proved what I so strongly recommend to you, and have found there is none other anchorage but religion amidst the perils of life's rough sea. The loss of children, of relatives, of friends, of health, has but drawn me nearer to my God; it is his arm which has supported me through years of sickness and monotonous confinement, when the world and its vain pleasures have availed me nothing.

Having urged you to the duty of prayer, and the daily study of the bible, I proceed to remark, that the next best means of promoting a holy and religious life, and of preventing that irritation of temper I have before alluded to, is the "keeping yourself unspotted from the

world." He, who engages in a multitude of business, in a round of dissipating pleasures, or even in the constant intercourse of what is termed "good society," must insensibly have his thoughts and affections drawn away from the contemplation of heavenly things, and his body so harassed as must necessarily unhinge the mind, and render ~~it~~ unsuited to prayer and study; and the same cause but too frequently operates in producing that very pettishness and irritation, that contracted brow and that gloomy countenance which the man of the world so often brings with him to his home and fire-side. Do not misunderstand me; I am no advocate for monkish seclusion, still less for inactive life. We have all imperious duties to perform, and it should be our aim to fulfil them to the best of our ability, each one increasing the talent given him to the fullest extent, for the good of his fellow-creatures, his country, and himself, and to the honour and glory of God. Neither would I debar you from any of the elegant or innocent recreations of life: but well assured I am, that the seldomer you mix in the public and more tu-

multuous scenes of dissipation; the happier will you be here and hereafter; and the more you abstract your mind and your desires from the feverish thirst after what is called pleasure (how falsely so her votaries can from repeated experience best tell), the better will you be enabled to act your part on the theatre of existence, as a man and as a christian.

Accustom yourself betimes to method and regularity; it is the soul of business, and will prevent that hurry and confusion so injurious to the temper, and so inimical to a devotional frame. By habitual self-examination you will perceive how many links from the great chain of human errors, and how vast the influence over the temper, the heart, and general conduct, quiet habits, regularity, and retirement possess. "Trifles make the sum of all things great" is proverbially true: a mere trifle has often given colour to our future life; and trifles operate full as forcibly on the government of our dispositions.

Five minutes spent in reviewing the past day every night ere you close your eyes followed by a fervent petition for the divine for-

givenness for the errors you have committed, and thankfulness for any good you have been enabled to perform, will be productive of more good than I am able to paint, and will render smooth the pillow of death; whilst those who never cast one retrospective glance on life as it glides by, must at this awful period be borne down by the pressure of sins unatoned, unheeded, and unforgiven, because unrepented of.

Before I finish this letter of maternal advice, the dictates of maternal anxiety, I cannot refrain from touching on a subject I consider as of the last importance to your well being, and from which, as a mother, no false delicacy shall tempt me to shrink.—Let me intreat you, my child, as you value the safety of your own soul, to beware of that fatal error and delusion so constantly placed before the eyes of youths, that *men* may commit with impunity sins which stamp our sex with infamy in this world, and consigns them to perdition in the next. “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners.” The gospel makes no such distinction. There is no latitude given unto *men*, more than unto *women*; both are alike com-

manded to keep themselves pure and undefiled : and God has pronounced a sentence against the fornicator and unclean person, from whence there is no appeal that I know of, and which can only be annulled by that deep contrition and repentance not to be repented of, and by earnest application to the blood of Christ, through whom alone our sins are forgiven, and our offences blotted out. That your sex are exposed to many and severe temptations from which ours are happily secure, is but too true ; and it therefore renders the same crime inexcusable in a woman, which circumstances may palliate in a man. In a moral and political point of view also, the defalcation of woman from the path of virtue is so widely a spreading evil, that nature shrinks from the contemplation of the picture, whilst the same in your sex operates on society by comparison but trivially. Still in the sight of God the crime is of equal dye : and whatever latitudinarians may say, however men may laugh, or I grieve to add, what is too often the case, women encourage, *He* will not suffer the libertine to go unpunished. Flee then youthful lusts, lest

they get the dominion over you; bring every desire to the touchstone of the gospel; so shall you possess that peace of mind which the world cannot give you, neither can it take away. When I think on the various trials and temptations you must encounter as you journey onwards, on the manifold incitements opening life presents to the passions, and the more powerful effect "the world's dread laugh" may have on so sensitive a mind as yours, I should tremble, but that I place my reliance on the mercy of the Almighty to shield you from the dangers wherewith you will be encompassed, and on the principles which have been implanted in you. Steadily adhere to your morning and evening devotions: let nothing ever tempt you to profane the Sabbath, or neglect attendance on public worship twice on this sacred day, with frequent communion at the Lord's table; on which last topic I shall (if Heaven spare my life) address you more fully at some future period. These sacred duties will be a check to evil propensities, and a safeguard to you when trials arise from within and without.

Remember they are only weak and frivolous characters who are liable to contempt. Dare to say NO ; many an amiable man has been ruined by want of firmness in giving a negative to some vain or sinful request. Dare to be good, and the good and the wise will countenance you, whose opinion alone can be valuable in the eyes of the man of understanding. I cannot conclude better than by a translation of a beautiful and striking passage from a French author, which, if rightly considered, and properly impressed on your mind, must keep you effectually from *presumptuous* sins.

“ Lift up thyself, my soul, that thou mayest comprehend the force and extent of these words :

God !

Time !

Eternity !

God, whose eye is always upon us ;

Time, which is ever flying from us ;

Eternity, which awaits us.

God, who is all in all ;

Time, which is as nothing ;

Eternity, which takes from, or gives us every thing.

God, whom we serve so little ;
 Time, which we employ so idly ;
 Eternity, which we risk every instant.

O God !

O time !

O eternity !”

That God may take you into his holy keeping, who is able to preserve both body and soul unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, and grant you so to spend your time on earth, as may ensure to you a never-fading crown of glory in the blessed eternity of heaven, is the fervent prayer of,

My dear child,

Your affectionate mother and faithful friend,

PRAYERS.



An Act of Adoration.

MOST HIGH and adorable Majesty! before whom whatsoever is great in heaven or on earth, must be acknowledged as nothing in comparison of thee, and unworthy to appear before thee: what then should I offer unto thee, but to refrain myself, and keep silence, adoring and honouring thee with the profoundest humility of soul.

I do adore thee, O holy God. I render homage to that Majesty Supreme before whom every knee doth bow, and in comparison of whom all power is weakness, all splendour poverty, and the brightest luminaries but thick darkness.

Unto thee, the only Lord of heaven, King of kings, immortal God ! unto thee only belong honour and glory.

Glory and honour, salvation and praise, be unto him who sitteth on the throne, and to the Lamb for evermore. Amen.

Our Father, &c.



Prayer for the Lord's Day Morning.

HOLY, holy, holy Lord God Almighty ! thou art glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, a God doing wonders. What goodness and mercy hast thou not done for me, a sinful creature, through my whole life, and particularly the last week. After so many seasons of unimproved grace, thou hast brought me to another Sabbath of sacred rest. Help me to remember the resurrection of my Lord, and let my prayers rise to the throne of his glory. Banish from my soul every vain thought : let me not dare to profane this holy day, set apart by thee for thy service : but may I begin and end it to thy honour and my own salvation.

Help me this day to attend thy word, and the ordinances of thy house, with pleasure and profit. O that my conscience may this day be awakened, my understanding enlightened, my will bowed to the obedience of faith, my affections fixed on heavenly things, and my heart enriched with divine graces and comforts! Make me fervent in prayer, and joyful in praise. Deliver me from a wandering eye and heart. Let me love the habitation of thy house, and at the close of public worship may I find my heart the fitter for devout retirement.

Graciously accept this morning's sacrifice for Jesus' sake, and in the evening let my experience joyfully testify that a day spent in nearness to God is better than a thousand spent in worldly pleasures. Hear in heaven, thy dwelling-place, and when thou hearest, forgive; do for me, and for all near and dear to me, according to the riches of thy grace in the great Redeemer, to whom, with thyself and Holy Spirit, be endless praises. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Prayer for the Lord's-day Evening.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY, who hast given us thy sabbaths to be a day of rest to our bodies, and of serious attention to the concerns of our souls; who hast also caused the holy scriptures to be written for our learning, that through them we may be made wise unto salvation; I beseech thee to give thy blessing to all the means of grace with which I have been favoured on this day.

Help me to examine my heart and life, and to discover all that is amiss in me. If there be any duty which I neglect, any evil habit to which I yield, or any unchristian temper against which I do not earnestly contend; if also there be any inattention allowed by myself in the midst of thy public worship, any neglect of secret prayer, or any dislike to serious piety and devotion; I pray that I may this night discover it, through thy grace assisting me; may I perceive the awful danger to my soul, and implore of thee to take away from me the heart of stone, and to put thy Spirit within me.

Pardon, O Lord, I beseech thee, the sins of the past week. O let my offences be all blotted out, and my soul delivered from eternal death, through the merits of Him who hath died for us. Reject not, I beseech thee, this prayer of my heart, but let my crying come up unto thee, O thou merciful Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. O may the seed sown in my heart this day bring forth fruit in due season. May I be deeply sensible of the blessing of being in a land where thy gospel is preached in purity and truth, and never dare live in any known sin that is contrary to its tenets. May thy light be spread abroad unto those countries which are in darkness and the shadow of death, that so all men may turn to thee, the living Lord, and become one fold under one Shepherd.

Take me, O God, and my dear parents, relatives, and friends, under thy gracious protection through this night. Accept all these my imperfect petitions in and through thy beloved Son Jesus Christ, in whose words I further pray.

Our Father, &c.

Monday Morning.

O LORD GOD ALMIGHTY ! thou makest light and createst darkness : thou causest the returns of morning and evening to rejoice. I thankfully acknowledge thy goodness, that I am brought in safety to see the light of another morning, while many have slept the sleep of death. With my strength renewed and my capacity restored, I would fain praise thee as my life and the length of my days.

I would, this morning, seriously devote myself to thee, and solemnly engage in thy awful presence, to spend this day as a reasonable creature and as a christian, serving thee and my fellow-creatures, and working out my own salvation.

I have, alas ! spent too many days in folly and sin ; forgetful of **GOD**, of the worth of my immortal soul, and of my christian privileges and hopes. I acknowledge my transgressions and am sorry for my sins. I sincerely repent of them before thee, and earnestly intreat thy forgiveness through thy son Jesus Christ, who gave himself a sacrifice for our sins, and ever liveth

to make intercession for us. Through him I earnestly beg the assistance of thy Holy Spirit, that I may for the future lead a godly, righteous, and sober life. I humbly pray for all my fellow-creatures, especially my dear parents, relations, and friends, that they may receive mercies suitable to their several wants, and that they may wisely improve them.

I beseech thee, O Lord, to keep me this day from evil in my going out and coming in. Feed me with food convenient for me, more especially that spiritual food so necessary to my soul, and grant me health and peace. May thy blessing attend all my lawful business and enjoyments. O! may I ever remember that thine eye seeth me whithersoever I am, and that my very thoughts lie open before thee. Make me earnest to seize every opportunity of doing good to others, and improving myself in knowledge and piety, that I may have reason for comfortable reflection in the evening on the manner in which I have spent this day. In all I do, may I be graciously accepted through Jesus Christ our only mediator. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Monday Evening.

O MOST high and holy God, I have sought thee, and have found thee. I see thine infinite perfections drawn upon all thy works of wonder. When I lift up my eyes, and consider the heavens, I own them to be the works of thy hand; and I admire that the builder and inhabiter of those glorious worlds should look down upon men, and visit such worms as we are. The sun, moon, and stars are all created by thee: I see thy glory in them all, and the glory of thy Son Jesus Christ, by whom thou madest the worlds. Every day and every night they speak thy praise, and tell the world there is a God; and while the heavens declare thy glory, and the firmament thy handy work, how can I forbear to worship and adore thee, their great Creator.

Thou, O Almighty God, hangest the earth upon nothing, balancest the clouds, bringest the wind out of thy treasures, thunderest with thy voice, and causest the sea to know its bounds.

I admire and adore thee, God of nature.

and providence, whose hand doth all these things, and who faintest not, neither art weary. O Lord, how manifold are thy works, all made in wisdom, and whither can I go where thou art not.

I adore and tremble at thy holiness and purity, who chargest thy angels with folly, and in whose sight the heavens are not clean. I admire and adore thine infinite goodness—the earth is full of it ; but how can the mind conceive, or the tongue express the wonders of thy love, in giving thy beloved Son to save a perishing world. O the height and depth of this love ! How many thousand sinners have been pardoned through Christ, and yet pardoning grace is still offered ! How long does divine pity wait over sinners ! How long hast thou had patience with me ! But now I come through thy grace and mercy ; I come worshipping at thy footstool, admiring the goodness which offers me a thousand blessings by the gospel, and which has laid up more for me than can enter into my heart to conceive.

Accept me, O God ; make me one more instance of pardoning and saving grace, that I

may shew forth thy praises in thy earthly temples, and may go ere long to sing thy praises in thy temple above, through a dying and now risen and interceding Saviour. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Tuesday Morning.

HOLY SPIRIT! source of light, deign to throw thy beams upon my soul, and help me to discover my sins. Shew them to me, O Lord, as distinctly now as they will appear to me when, on quitting this life, I must appear before thee, my great judge.

Shew me, O GOD; the ills which I have committed and the good which I have omitted. Enlighten me and suffer not, O GOD of truth, that criminal self-love should seduce and blind me; take away the veil from mine eyes, and let nothing hinder me from the knowledge of myself, and of my many and crying infirmities.

Let me place my entire dependance on thee, who art able to save to the uttermost: and who will in no wise cast out him who cometh

unto thee with a contrite heart. Make me humble in my thoughts of myself, and kind in my deportment towards others. Take me and all dear and near unto me into thy holy keeping this day. Suffer me to fall into no presumptuous sins, nor to run into any kind of danger. These and every other blessing I implore of thee, in thy Son's name Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Tuesday Evening.

GREAT and good **G**OD, thy loving kindness is new every morning, and fresh every evening; great is thy faithfulness. It is because thou hast been at my right-hand this day, that I have not been moved. I have found thee wherever and whenever I have sought thee. I have found thee in thy word and in prayer; on my bed and at my table, in my business and visits, at home and abroad. I have found the comforts of thy scriptures, the care of thy providence, and manifold tokens of thy fatherly

regard. O that thou wouldest grant me such converse and intercourse with thyself, as may make me long for more immediate communion with thee in heaven.

As thy ways are pleasantness and thy paths peace, grant that I may never admit a thought against the strictness and purity of thy holy law. Manifest, I pray thee, thy powerful grace in conquering my will, and assist me to go from strength to strength, and so run my christian race as to obtain the heavenly prize.

Prepare my mind, by holy trust and fortitude, for what every night or day may bring forth; persuaded, that whatever thou doest will be in wisdom and in love. May I lie down this night in peace with thee; and may I lie down at last and sleep in Jesus; to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be glory for ever. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Wednesday Morning.

O GOD, by whom the whole world is governed and preserved, I give thee humble thanks for

thy fatherly care over me, in preserving me from the dangers of the night past, and in bringing me safe to the beginning of another day.

I gratefully acknowledge my dependance on thee for all the necessities, conveniences, and comforts of my life, for all the means of well being in this world, and for the hope of everlasting happiness in thy heavenly kingdom. I give thee thanks for the light of thy gospel, and the help of thy grace, and for thy promises of pardon, through thy Son Jesus Christ, to those who repent and believe the gospel.

Enable me to resist and overcome temptation by the grace of thy good Spirit; to be serious and holy in my life, true and just in my dealings, watchful over my thoughts, words, and actions; to be diligent, contented, temperate, and mindful of the wants of others.

Give me grace honestly to improve the talents which thou hast committed to my trust; and may no worldly business, no worldly pleasures, divert me from the concerns of the life to come.

Defend me, O Lord, and all near and dear

to me in all assaults of our enemies, and grant that this day, we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings may be ordered by thy governance to do always that which is righteous in thy sight.

Finally, I beseech thee to give me in this world the knowledge of thy truth and in the world to come, life everlasting, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Wednesday Evening.

O! THOU searcher of hearts, who sees and knowest all my sins; help me so to search every secret of my heart this evening, that I may leave no sin if possible, unrepented of. Give me grace so impartially to judge and condemn myself, so humbly to repent and entreat forgiveness, that I shall not be condemned when I shall appear at thy tribunal in the great and terrible day of the Lord Jesus.

But alas! after the strictest examination I can make, who can number his iniquities? Who can tell how oft he offendeth. Cleanse

me, therefore, O Lord, I beseech thee, not only from my presumptuous and known sins, but from all secret and unknown transgressions for his sake who died for sinners, Jesus Christ our Lord.

How idly and unprofitably have I spent much of my precious time hitherto! How seldom have I read thy holy word! How cold and lifeless have been my devotions! How vain and trifling my thoughts! How much occupied with the things of this world, and how little on the important concerns of the next.

How backward have I been in examining the state of my soul, and to call my sins to remembrance, so as to mourn and be affected with a godly sorrow for them.

When I look back on my past life, and reflect how little I possess of the spirit and temper of the gospel, "my heart trembleth for fear of thee, and I am afraid of thy judgments." But I beseech thee, O Lord, who art gracious and merciful, long-suffering, and of great goodness for the sake of my dear Redeemer, to pardon and forgive all my past inattention,

deadness of devotion, all my sins of ignorance, but still more especially those wilfully committed against the checks of conscience.—These I deeply bewail, O Lord, and intreat thee to pardon.

Touch my heart with a sense of thy love, thy mercies, and thy endless bounty to me and all thy creatures, and enable me to keep in mind the bitter sufferings of the holy Jesus, that I may never grieve his Spirit by a love of sin, nor neglect so great salvation as he purchased for me through his blood.

Finally, O GOD, I commend myself and all my dear friends into thy care and holy keeping this night. Let us lie down and wake with thee. Hear these my imperfect petitions for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Thursday Morning.

O MOST bountiful and gracious Lord God, at whose command the darkness fleeth away and the light appeareth, I prostrate myself

before thee this morning with a renewed sense of my dependance upon thee, praising and blessing thee for that thou hast vouchsafed to bring me again to the beginning of another day, with my body refreshed by rest, and my mind capable of admiring and adoring thee my merciful Creator.

Conscious, O Lord, of my manifold and great transgressions and my unworthiness in thy sight, whose thoughts are not as my thoughts, nor thy ways as my ways; I should be afraid to approach the throne of thy mercy-seat with my imperfect petitions, but that thou permittest and emboldenest me to come unto thee. Praised therefore be thy name for this and every other instance of thy loving kindness toward me, but above all for thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ, for the means of grace and for the hope of glory.

Take, I beseech thee, myself and all belonging unto me, under thy almighty protection this day; grant us those things which be needful for us, both for our souls and bodies; give me grace so to spend my time, as that I

may be enabled to reflect on it with comfort at that awful hour when the fashion of this world shall have passed away, and another and an eternal world shall be opening upon me.

Make me, O God, in my respective callings of life, a faithful steward of the talents thou hast given me, that when I am called upon to give an account of my stewardship I may prove myself not to have been an idle or an unprofitable servant.

O Lord, who art always more ready to hear than we to pray, and art wont to give more than either we desire or deserve, accept these my humble petitions through the merits of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose name and words I further pray, saying

Our Father, &c.

Thursday Evening.

O MOST gracious GOD, thou hast been a father to me this day, for thou hast fed and clothed me; thou hast kept me from evil, and done me good, thy mercies are new every morning and fresh every evening. Every day

will I bless thee, and praise thy name for ever and ever. This day has my dear Redeemer been feeding my soul with the bread of life, may his holy word make me wise unto salvation. Every day may some seeds of grace be sown in my heart. O take away the thorns and briars that are apt to choke the good seed and make it unfruitful. Am I proud? Heavenly Father, make me humble. Am I obstinate? help me to conquer myself. Am I quarrelsome and provoking? Put upon me a meek and quiet spirit. Every day may some evil temper be mortified till at last I shall find thy yoke easy and thy burthen light. Then shall I run with delight in the way of thy commandments when thou hast renewed my heart. Into thy care, heavenly Father, I commit myself this night. Let thine eyes watch over me, and thine arm protect me: and in the morning let my first thoughts be of thee, and thus whether I awake or sleep, live or die, may I be thine for ever and ever. Amen,

Our Father, &c,

Friday Morning.

O GOD! holy and gracious, I heartily thank thee for all the mercies and blessings thou hast hitherto granted me. It is by thy goodness alone that I am permitted to behold another day. Oh! may I employ it in thy service and to thy glory. I consecrate to thee my thoughts, my words, my actions. Bless them, Lord, so that every one of them may be filled with love of thee, and tend to promote thy honour and glory.

Adorable Jesus! model divine of that perfection to which we should aspire; I will endeavour henceforth to render myself more and more like unto thee, to become, like thee, meek, humble, chaste, zealous, patient, charitable under all provocations, and resigned under all calamities. Help me this day by thy grace that I may not fall into any of those errors I have so often bewailed, and which I so sincerely desire to overcome.

Take my dear parents and all my relations and friends into thy all-powerful protection:

keep them and me from all things hurtful, and grant us a place amongst the blessed in the kingdom of heaven, through thy merits and thy mediation. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Friday Evening.

ONCE more, O holy Lord God, I am prostrate in thy presence, to implore thy divine protection for the time to come, thy pardon for all my past sins, and thy grace for help in time of need. Hear me I beseech thee in and through the name of our great mediator, Jesus Christ. Young, I come to thee for that wisdom which is better than length of days; helpless, I look to thee for succour; naked, I come to thee to be clothed in thy righteousness. Have mercy upon me, O most merciful Father, and conduct me in the way that leadeth unto life everlasting. What dangers beset me! What trials encompass me! Do thou, O lover of souls, who wast suspended upon the cross to save guilty man, receive me into the arms of thy mercy; let not the suggestions of

my own heart, the force of youthful lusts, or the pleasures of this vain world ever have power to seduce me from thy service, which is freedom, and joy, and love. Impress upon my mind the uncertainty of life, the certainty of death, and of judgment after death. Let me not be found unprepared when the awful summons reaches me, but so live that I may hear the joyful welcome "Well done thou good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord."

Take me, my dear parents and relations and friends under thy fatherly protection. Let them be of the number of those whom thou lovest and in whom is thy delight. Bless my enemies, and forgive all who have injured me, even as I hope to be forgiven my many and great offences against thee. These and every other mercy I implore in the name and for the sake of thy Son our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Saturday Morning.

ALMIGHTY and immortal God! the aid of all that need, the helper of all that flee to thee

for succour, the life of them that believe, and the resurrection of the dead; I kneel again in thy presence this morning to return thee thanks for thy preservation of me through the past night, and for the refreshing sleep I have enjoyed, whilst many have sought in vain for rest from the anguish of pain or sorrow, and many have slept never to wake again. By thy mercy it is that I am permitted to behold the light of another day in health and safety. Praised therefore be thy name, O Lord! O let all that is within me praise thy holy name.

Have mercy upon me, O God! and forgive me all my sins: give me grace to flee all youthful lusts, and to remember thee, my Creator, in the days of my youth. Possess also my heart, O God! with that natural tenderness for my parents, and with that christian sense of my duty towards them, that my whole behaviour may be such, that I may not increase the burthen and care of their lives, but may prove a comfort and blessing to them. Bless my endeavours to attain useful knowledge, but more especially help me in the way

of godliness, and make me hunger and thirst after righteousness, that when I am weighed in the balance I may not be found wanting.

Feed me with food convenient for me, and grant me such a measure of health and other temporal blessings as thou seest best and most fitting for me.

Take me, and all that are dear to me under thy protection this day. Grant that I fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; that so passing through things temporal, I may finally lose not the things which are eternal.

Hear these, my imperfect petitions, in, and through the mediation of Jesus Christ, thy Son our Lord. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

Saturday Evening.

O GREAT and glorious God! who inhabitest eternity, and dwellest in that light which no mortal eye can approach, I again prostrate myself in thy presence this evening, acknowledging my great unworthiness to appear in

thy presence, yet most earnestly rejoicing in the high privilege thou has granted me, of pouring out my soul in prayer unto thee.

Another week is gone by, and numbered with the years beyond the flood! Years roll onward, and generations pass away: yet how little do I lay these things to heart, or consider that I too shall soon be as these are, and the place of my abiding shall know me no more.

Lord teach me so to number my days that I may apply my heart unto wisdom. Let me remember that all flesh is grass, as the flower of the field, that springeth up and soon withereth away, and that although I am now in the enjoyment of health and strength, a moment may bring me down to the grave, and my soul be summoned to appear before thee: suffer this important truth to sink deep into my mind, that I may set a watch before my lips, and so guard my steps, that I may never dare offend thee by presumptuous sins. But alas! so frail is my nature, and so liable am I to fall into temptation, that without thy succour, vain are my firmest resolutions. For this cause, O Lord! I implore thee to give me

such a measure of thy grace, as shall enable me to overcome sin, and to press forward towards the prize of the high calling through Jesus Christ. O may I, by thy gracious help, so pass the waves of this troublesome world, that I may at last safely reach that haven where I would be. Grant that whether my days be many or few, they may be passed in usefully serving my fellow-creatures and in promoting thy glory: that when my appointed time arrives, I may as joyfully put off this earthly tabernacle, as I now lay aside my earthly apparel, trusting to be clothed with the righteousness of Christ, and through his atoning blood and merits to attain a blessed immortality. To whom, with thee, O Father, and the Holy Spirit, be adoration and praise now and for evermore. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

A Prayer before reading the Bible.

O MERCIFUL and righteous God! I thy weak and sinful creature do humbly bless thy holy name, for that thou hast vouchsafed to enlighten the darkness of our present mor-

talities with the resplendent light of thy glorious gospel.

Thou by thy Son Jesus Christ, hast redeemed us from death, and hast opened to us the gate of everlasting life ; thou hast shewed us the path leading unto salvation. Thou hast in this thy book spoken to us the words of truth, of peace, of consolation, O may I never take it up but that my soul may be filled with gratitude for all thy great mercies, and never lay it down without being the better for thy holy word, more firmly resolved to obey thy commandments, and follow the blessed example our Master and Saviour Christ has set us, for which end, do thou O Lord most holy, give me thy grace, help my weaknesses, and assist me with thy Holy Spirit, that so I may become a doer of thy word and not a hearer only. Grant this, O merciful Father, for thy dear Son's sake, Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Prayer for Divine Assistance.

HOLY God, Father of all mercies, who hast created me to serve thee, in the blest liberty of

thy children, grant that I may no longer be under the shameful bondage of criminal passions or desires.

Help me, O God, to break the bondage into which they have brought me, and sustain me in those arduous struggles in which I am necessarily engaged against myself.

Thou knowest Lord, my weakness, and the strength of those enemies which triumph over me and my best resolutions. Witness of my frailties and my sins, thou seest them at each moment. Anger hurries me. Pride elevates me. Resentment governs me. Impurity exposes me to sundry temptations, idleness causes me to neglect my various duties, and self-love intrudes into all my best actions. What restraint! O my God. What bondage of soul! Nevertheless, I would earnestly desire to love thee, and if possible, to resemble thee in all things: I disavow and detest these irregularities of heart: I am grieved to have so often yielded to them. I am afflicted because I have so often sinned against thee, and that it is *thee*, O infinite goodness, whom I have abused every time that I have yielded to temptation. O may I for the time to come obtain thy help

to overcome these dangerous suggestions of the great enemy of souls; in thy name, O holy Saviour will I take up arms against the world, the flesh, and the devil: it is in thy name, O blessed Jesus, that I hope to obtain the victory, who livest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

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A devout Prayer to be used at any Time.

O! MOST mighty Lord God! I believe in thee; do thou fortify my belief: I hope in thee; do thou strengthen my hope; I love thee; but do thou redouble my love: I repent of my sins, do thou encrease my repentance.

I adore thee as the first great cause. I desire thee as the end of all things. I thank thee as my perpetual benefactor. I invoke thee as my sovereign defender.

Deign, O God, to rule me by thy wisdom, to keep me by thy justice, to comfort me by thy mercy and to protect me by thy power.

Lord I would chuse but what thou wilt, because thou wilt as thou pleasest, and in what manner soever thou judgest best.

Enlighten my understanding, purify my body, and sanctify my soul.

My God, help me to repent of my past sins, to overcome temptation, to correct those passions to which I am most liable, and to practise those virtues most necessary for me.

Fill my heart with gratitude for thy great goodness, with detestation of my sins, with zeal and kindness to my neighbour, and contempt for the pleasures of this world.

Let me remember, O Lord, to be submissive to my superiors, charitable to my inferiors, faithful to my friends, and generous to my enemies.

O God, teach me to be prudent in my undertakings, courageous in danger, patient in adversity, and humble in prosperity.

Let me not forget to add devotion to my prayers, temperance to my repasts, method and

exactness to all my employments, and constancy to all my resolutions.

Inspire me, Lord, with a desire of keeping a conscience void of offence, a modest deportment, an edifying conversation and regularity of conduct.

Teach me to feel the insignificance of all earthly things, the vast importance of heavenly things, the shortness of time, and the duration of eternity.

Grant that I may prepare myself for death, and obtain at the last a place in thy blessed kingdom, through our Lord Jesus Christ, Amen,

Our Father, &c.

Prayer for a meek and quiet Spirit.

O BLESSED LORD GOD, thou most compassionate lover of souls: look with thy tenderest pity upon me, a young weak, and frail creature: who am encompassed about with many and great infirmities: my nature is corrupt; my passions strong, and I am but too

prone to peevishness and anger on every slight provocation.

O Lord, I lament and bewail this wretched corruption of my nature, humbly beseeching thee for the sake and merits of my blessed Saviour, to pardon and forgive all that sin and folly it has betrayed me into. And I beg of thee, O merciful Father, to give me a meek and quiet spirit, a patient and forgiving temper, a humble, charitable, and christian disposition, that my mind may at all times be quiet and easy, my carriage gentle, kind and obliging to all men; and the whole conduct and deportment of my life such as becomes the servant of the meek and blessed Jesus. Convince me, truly, O Lord, of the great folly of passion and anger: how contrary it is to the spirit of thy most holy religion which commands us to put away all bitterness and wrath, and how much it unfits us for our duties towards thee, our neighbours, and ourselves.

Let the sweet influences of thy blessed Spirit calm the passions and compose the disorders of my soul: and, O save me from the dangers of this troublesome and tempestuous

life. Root out of my heart, O merciful God, all pride and vanity, all malice, hatred, and ill-will, and give me such a sense of my own unworthiness, and of the many offences of which I have been guilty towards thee, as may move me to pity the weakness and failings of others, and to forgive the greatest injuries and provocations, remembering how much I stand in need of pity and forgiveness at thy hand.

Take away from me the spirit of this world, and fill me with that spirit of love and charity that suffereth long and is kind, and which beareth all things; that being full of that peace of God, which passeth all understanding, I may live with comfort and die with joy, and may hereafter dwell in the peaceful regions of everlasting bliss, where thou, O blessed Jesus, who art the Prince of Peace, livest and reignest with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God world without end. Amen.

Our Father, &c.

A SELECTION OF HYMNS

TO BE USED AFTER

MORNING AND EVENING PRAYER.

1. *Morning Hymn.*

AWAKE, my soul, and with the sun,
Thy daily stage of duty run;
Shake off dull sloth, and early rise,
To pay thy morning sacrifice.

Redeem thy mispent moments past,
And live this day as if the last;
Thy talents to improve take care,
For the great day thyself prepare.

Let all thy converse be sincere,
Thy conscience as the noon-day clear;
For God's all-seeing eye surveys
Thy secret thoughts, thy works and ways.

Wake and lift up thyself, my heart,
And with the angels bear thy part,
Who all night long unwearied sing
High glory to the eternal King.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, angelic host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

2. *Another.*

We lift our hearts to thee,
 O! day-star from on high;
 The sun itself is but thy shade,
 Yet cheers both earth and sky.

Let thy enlightening beams,
 The night of sin disperse;
 The mists of error and of vice,
 Which shade the universe.

O, may no glaring crime,
 Pollute the rising day;
 Or Jesu's blood like evening dew,
 Wash all the stains away.

May we this life employ,
 To mourn for errors past;
 And live this short revolving day,
 As if it were our last.

3. *For Sunday Morning.*

LORD, fix our wandering thoughts,
 Thy sacred word to hear;
 With deep attention and with love,
 With rev'rence and with fear.

Let us remember still,
 That God is present there;
 And let our hearts be all engag'd,
 When we draw near in prayer.

And when the humble notes,
 Of praise our lips employ;
 Give us to taste the sweet delight,
 Which saints in heaven enjoy.

O, may thy sacred word,
 Sink deep in every breast;
 And let us all by grace be brought,
 To Christ the promis'd rest.



4. *Evening Hymn.*

GLORY to thee, my God, this night,
 For all the blessings of the light:
 Keep me, O keep me, King of kings,
 Under thy own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for thy dear Son,
 The ills which I this day have done,
 That with the world, myself, and thee,
 I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live, that I may dread
 The grave as little as my bed;
 Teach me to die, that so I may
 Rise glorious in the judgment day.

O may my soul in thee repose,
 And with sweet sleep my eyelids close—
 Sleep that may me more active make
 To serve my God when I awake.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
 Praise him, all creatures here below;
 Praise him above, angelic host,
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

5. *Greatness of God.*

ETERNAL POWER, whose high abode
Becomes the grandeur of a God,
Infinite lengths beyond the bounds
Where stars revolve their little rounds.

Thee, while the first archangel sings,
He hides his face behind his wings,
And ranks of shining thrones around,
Fall worshipping, and spread the ground.

Lord, what shall earth and ashes do?
We would adore our Maker too:
From sin and dust to thee we cry,
The great, the holy, and the high.

Earth from afar hath heard thy fame,
And worms have learnt to lisp thy name;
But O the glories of thy mind
Leave all our soaring thoughts behind.

God is in heaven, and men below—
Be short our tunes, our words be few;
A solemn reverence checks our songs,
And praise sits silent on our tongues.

6. *Praise to Christ.*

Come, let us join our cheerful songs
With angels round the throne;
Ten thousand thousand are their tongues,
But all their joys are one.

“Worthy the Lamb that died!” they cry,
“To be exalted thus:”
“Worthy the Lamb! our hearts reply,
“For he was slain for us.”

Jesus is worthy to receive
 Honour and power divine;
 And blessings more than we can give,
 Be, Lord, for ever thine.

The whole creation join in one
 To bless the sacred name
 Of Him that sits upon the throne,
 And to adore the Lamb.

7. *The Refuge.*

JESU ! lover of my soul,
 Let me to thy bosom fly,
 While the nether waters roll,
 While the tempest still is nigh:
 Hide me, O my Saviour hide,
 Till the storm of life is past;
 Safe into the haven guide—
 O receive my soul at last.

Other refuge have I none,
 Hangs my helpless soul on thee;
 Leave, ah ! leave me not alone,
 Still support and comfort me.
 All my trust on thee is stayed,
 All my help from thee I bring;
 Cover my defenceless head
 With the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want,
 More than all in thee I find;
 Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
 Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
 Just and holy is thy name—
 I am all unrighteousness;
 False and full of sin I am—
 Thou art full of truth and grace.

Plenteous grace with thee is found,
 Grace to cover all my sin;
 Let the healing streams abound,
 Make and keep me pure within.
 Thou of life the fountain art,
 Freely let me take of thee;
 Spring thou up within my heart,
 Rise to all eternity.



8. *On recovering from Sickness.*

WHEN darkness shrouded round my bed,
 When pain weigh'd down my anguish'd head,
 Thou, Lord, didst look with pitying eye,
 And mark'd the tear, and heard the sigh.

When sore oppress'd my troubled soul
 Heav'd with the tempest's furiate roll,
 That God who calm'd the raging sea,
 Spake now the word and set me free.

When midst my solitude so drear,
 No voice familiar met my ear,
 Thou, Lord, didst whisper, "Feel no dread,
 My shelt'ring wing is o'er thee spread."

Wearied, I ceas'd the storm to brave,
 My spirit hasten'd to the grave;
 Then, Lord, thou from the vale of death,
 Safe led'st me back to life and health.

Say thou, my soul, what now shall be
 Thy offering to the Lord from me?
 Silver and gold he needeth none,
 The heart, the heart, and that alone.

Deign thou, O God, that heart t'accept,
 By thee let all its thoughts be kept;
 Guard thou each avenue to ill,
 And be my breast thy temple still.

Thus shall my residue of years
 Be free from danger, free from fears;
 Nor mark thou what is done amiss,
 But take, thro' Christ, my soul to bliss.

ORIGINAL.

9. *A Friend indeed.*

O God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Our shelter from the stormy blast,
 And our eternal home.

Under the shadow of thy throne
 Still may we dwell secure;
 Sufficient is thy arm alone,
 And our defence is sure.

Before the hills in order stood,
 Or earth receiv'd her frame,
 From everlasting thou art God,
 To endless years the same.

A thousand ages, in thy sight,
 Are like an evening gone,
 Short as the watch that ends the night,
 Before the rising sun.

The busy tribes of flesh and blood,
 With all their cares and fears,
 Are carried downwards by the flood,
 And lost in endless years.

O God, our help in ages past,
 Our hope for years to come,
 Be thou our guide while life shall last,
 And our perpetual home.

10. *Wisdom's Advice.*

In the soft season of thy youth,
In nature's smiling bloom,
Ere age arrives, you trembling wait
A summons to the tomb.

Remember thy Creator, God,
For him thy hopes employ;
Make him thy fear, thy love, thy hope,
Thy confidence, thy joy.

He shall defend and guide thy course
Through life's uncertain sea,
Till thou art landed on the shore
Of blest eternity.

Then seek the Lord betimes and choose
The path of heavenly truth;
The earth affords no lovelier sight
Than a religious youth.

11. *A Prayer for Youth.*

GUIDE of our youth to thee we cry;
Great God to us be ever nigh:
Lighten our eyes, our hearts convert,
Nor let us thy good ways desert.

Ten thousand snares beset our way,
To draw our helpless souls astray;
Regard our wants, our prayer attend,
And with thy power and grace defend.

O smile on those whose liberal care
Provides for our instruction here;
And let our conduct ever prove
We're grateful for their generous love.

Through life may we perform thy will,
 Our present station wisely fill;
 Then join the friends we here have known,
 In nobler songs around thy throne.

12. *Lord's Prayer.*

FATHER ador'd in worlds above,
 Thy glorious name be hallow'd still;
 Thy kingdom come with power and love,
 And earth, like heaven, obey thy will.

Lord, make our daily wants thy care,
 Forgive the sins which we forsake;
 Oh! let us in thy kindness share,
 As fellow-men of ours partake.

Evils beset us every hour;
 Thy kind protection we implore:
 Thine is the kingdom, thine the power,
 Be thine the glory evermore.

13. *Devout Aspirations.*

MAY I love thee and adore thee,
 O thou bleeding, dying lamb;
 Teach my heart to bend before thee,
 Kindle there a sacred flame.

Teach me what I am by nature,
 How to lift my thoughts on high;
 Teach me, oh! thou great Creator,
 How to live, and how to die.

14. *Contentment.*

FATHER! whate'er of earthly bliss,
 Thy sovereign will denies;
 Accepted at thy throne of grace,
 Let this petition rise,

Give me a calm a thoughtful heart,
 From ev'ry murmur free ;
 The blessings of thy grace impart,
 That I may live to thee.

Let the sweet hope that thou art mine,
 My life and death attend ;
 Thy presence thro' my journey shine,
 And crown my journey's end.

15. *Religion.*

'Tis religion that can give,
 Sweetest pleasures while we live,
 'Tis religion must supply,
 Solid comfort when we die.

After death, its joys will be
 Lasting as eternity ;
 Let me then make Gop my friend,
 And on all his ways attend.

16. *Vanity of the World.*

ALAS ! what is this world
 With all its flattering toys ;
 But transitory things !
 But momentary joys !
 The things which please so much to-day,
 To-morrow wing and fly away.

How great the folly then,
 To stoop to things so mean ;
 And gratify the mind
 With this poor changing scene :
 When every object that I see,
 Says, " happiness is not in me,"

Look higher, then my soul,
 Lord give me faith to see;
 That perishable things,
 Were not ordain'd for me.
 One view of Him who bled and died,
 Is better far than all beside.

17. *Rock of Ages.*

Rock of Ages! shelter me,
 Let me hide myself in thee;
 Let the water and the blood,
 From thy wounded side which flow'd,
 Be of sin the double cure,
 Cleanse me from it's guilt and power.

Not the labour of my hands,
 Can fulfil thy laws demands;
 Could my zeal no respite know,
 Could my tears for ever flow;
 All for sin could not atone,
 Thou must save and thou alone.

Nothing in my hand I bring,
 Simply to thy cross I cling;
 Naked, come to thee for dress,
 Helpless, look to thee for grace;
 Black, I to the fountain fly,
 Wash me, Saviour, or I die.

While I draw this fleeting breath,
 When my eye-strings break in death;
 When I soar to worlds unknown,
 See thee on thy judgment throne;
 Rock of Ages shelter me,
 Let me hide myself in thee.

18. *Providence.*

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 'Fix'd by thy sure decree ;
 My Saviour then will manage well,
 All that belongs to me.

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 My wealth, my want, my woe,
 My infancy, my youth, my age,
 My frames when high or low.

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 While wrestling hard with sin ;
 I see an angel band without,
 And feel thy grace within.

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 When sore opprest with guilt ;
 I hear my Saviour whisp'ring say,
 For thee my blood was spilt.

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 When strong temptations rise ;
 Thy grace supports, thy listening ear
 Regards my mournful cries.

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 Shall be my hope in death :
 Shall make my dying pillow soft,
 When yielding up my breath.

My times, O Lord, are in thy hand,
 Shall be my song below ;
 With this I'll daily bear my cross,
 With this to heaven I'll go.

19. *Good Friday.*

HE dies, the friend of sinners dies,
 Lo ! Salem's daughters weep around ;
 A solemn darkness veils the skies,
 A sudden trembling shakes the ground.

Come saints and drop a tear or two,
 For Him who groau'd beneath your load ;
 He shed a thousand drops for you,
 A thousand drops of richer blood.

Here's love and grief beyond degree,
 The Lord of glory dies for men ;
 But lo ! what sudden joys we see,
 Jesus the dead revives again.

The rising God forsakes the tomb,
 In vain the tomb forbids his rise ;
 Cherubic legions guard him home,
 And shout his welcome to the skies.

Break off your tears ye saïnts, and tell
 How high our great Deliv'rer reigns ;
 Sing, how he spoil'd the hosts of hell,
 And led the tyrant death in chains.

Say, " Live for ever, wond'rous King,
 Born to redeem and strong to save ;"
 Then ask the tyrant, " Where's thy sting !"
 And " Where's thy victory boasting grave."

20. *Easter Day.*

CHRIST the Lord is risen to-day,
 Sons of men and angels say !
 Raise your joys and triumphs high,
 Sing ye heavens and earth reply.

Love's redeeming work is done,
 Fought the fight, the battle won;
 Lo! the sun's eclipse is o'er,
 Lo! he sets in blood no more.

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
 Christ hath burst the gates of hell;
 Death in vain forbids his rise,
 Christ hath open'd Paradise.

Lives again our glorious King,
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 Once he died our souls to save,
 Where's thy victory boasting grave?



21. *For the Blank Leaf of a Bible.*

Ho! ye that thirst, to living waters turn,
 Here seek refreshment to your fainting soul;
 Nor fear to meet the proud oppressor's spurn,
 No wealth they need who seek the heavenly goal.

O cease to crave for that which is not bread,
 O cease to labour and to toil in vain;
 Here without price, the heavenly banquet's spread,
 Here seek and find your soul's immortal gain.

ORIGINAL.



22. *For the New Year.*

O God our help in ages past,
 Our hope in years to come;
 Our shelter from the stormy blast,
 And our eternal home.

To thee we pay our yearly vow,
 Of humble thanks and praise;
 To thee we freely offer now,
 The remnant of our days.

Lord if our sins are counted o'er,
 They strike us with surprise;
 Not all the sands upon the shore,
 To equal numbers rise.

Teach us to feel our guilty state,
 To view the path wide trod;
 Teach us to sue at mercy's gate,
 Before we meet our God.

Teach us to walk with ready feet,
 In thy most holy ways;
 To count our Saviour's service sweet,
 And give him all the praise.

Thus when the sun at thy command,
 Shall cease his yearly round;
 When at thy bar the world shall stand,
 And the last trumpet sound.

Then while the awful sentence rings,
 In careless sinners' ears;
 To us our God redemption brings,
 And endless are our years.

THE END.